

REMARKS

The Specification has been amended to include reference to application number PCT/GB03/00301 filed on January 23, 2003, which claims priority to Great Britain Application No. 0201607.9 filed on January 24, 2002.

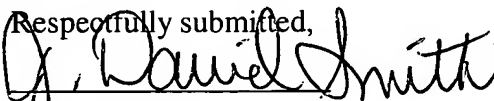
The Claims have been amended to reduce multiple dependencies and to conform claims more closely to U.S. practice. The multiple dependencies have been removed, "in which" has been changed to "wherein," and the recitation of Markush format has been introduced where appropriate. Moreover, claim 9 has been canceled without prejudice as it is not believed to be in harmony with United States practice.

In this connection, applicant wishes to point out that the claims being treated as original claims for the purposes of this filing and this Preliminary Amendment correspond to the claims submitted to the International Bureau as of January 14, 2004 and that were acknowledged and considered in the International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER). A separate copy of said claims as filed before the International Bureau is also enclosed and confirmation that said claims are pending herein is requested.

Likewise, pages 1 and 2 of the original Specification were amended during International processing, at the same time as the submission of the amended claims, and amended sheets are likewise enclosed for the Examiner's reference and for inclusion in the application as filed herewith.

Entry of the foregoing amendments and early and favorable processing in the National Phase before the United States Patent and Trademark Office is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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